

WC 07-276

LAWYERS

**STAMP & RETURN**

Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

ANCHORAGE BELLEVUE LOS ANGELES NEW YORK PORTLAND SAN FRANCISCO SEATTLE SHANGHAI WASHINGTON, D.C.

BRIAN J. HURH  
DIRECT (202) 973-4279  
brianhurh@dwt.com

SUITE 200  
1919 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

TEL (202) 973-4200  
FAX (202) 973-4499  
www.dwt.com

November 19, 2007

**By Hand Delivery**

Marlene H. Dortch  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20554

**FILED/ACCEPTED**

**NOV 19 2007**

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

**Re: In the Matter of Section 63.71 Application of Comcast Phone of Maryland, LLC**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Enclosed please find the original and four (4) copies of the Application of Comcast Phone of Maryland, LLC for Authority to Discontinue the Provision of Comcast Digital Phone Service to certain customers in Maryland.

Also enclosed is an extra copy of this filing which we ask be stamped to acknowledge receipt and returned to our messenger.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Michael C. Sloan  
Brian J. Hurh  
Counsel to Comcast Phone of Maryland, LLC

Enclosure

cc: Rodney McDonald, Wireline Competition Bureau FCC  
Kimberly Jackson, Wireline Competition Bureau, FCC  
Secretary of Defense  
Hon. Martin O'Malley, Governor, State of Maryland  
Maryland Public Service Commission

WDC 714012v1 0106080-000052

**BEFORE THE  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of )  
Section 63.71 Application of )  
Comcast Phone of Maryland, LLC )

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

for Authority Pursuant to )  
Section 214 of the Communications )  
Act to Discontinue the Provision )  
of Comcast Digital Phone )  
Service in Maryland )

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION**

Comcast Phone of Maryland, LLC d/b/a Comcast Digital Phone ("Comcast Phone"), hereby seeks authorization pursuant to Section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended; 47 U.S.C. § 214(a), and Section 63.71 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue its provision of Comcast Digital Phone service to its customers in Maryland. In support of this Application, Comcast Phone provides the following information:

**I. Information Required by 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1) – (a)(4)**

**1. Name and Address of Carrier**

Comcast Phone of Maryland, LLC  
1500 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
Attn: Brian A. Rankin

## **2. Date of Planned Service Discontinuance**

Comcast Phone plans to discontinue the provision of its Comcast Digital Phone service in Maryland on or after January 15, 2008, but no earlier than 31 days after the Commission releases public notice of this filing. Further, the proposed January 15, 2008 disconnection will be a "soft disconnect" only. Customers will continue to be able to call emergency services ("911") as well as the Comcast Phone call center until February 15, 2008 (or one month after the authorized disconnection date).

## **3. Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected**

Comcast Phone currently provides interstate (and intrastate) telecommunications service throughout Maryland. Comcast Phone is following the appropriate state law for discontinuance of the applicable Comcast Digital Phone service in the state. Comcast Phone will assist affected customers during their transition to new carriers.

## **4. Description of Type of Service Affected**

Pursuant to this application, Comcast Phone seeks authority to discontinue its Comcast Digital Phone service in the State of Maryland.

## **II. Notice to Customers**

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a), Comcast Phone has notified all affected customers of the planned discontinuance of its Comcast Digital Phone service. Specifically, Comcast Phone sent letters via first class U.S. Mail to each of the affected customers on November 16, 2007, which included all the information required by 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1) – (a)(4), as well as the statement applicable to non-dominant carriers set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(5)(i). A copy of the notification letter is provided as Attachment 1.

### **III. Notice to States and the Dept. of Defense**

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. 63.71(a), Comcast Phone has mailed a copy of this Application to the Governor of Maryland, the Maryland Public Service Commission, and the Secretary of Defense.

### **IV. Non-Dominant Status**

Comcast Phone is a non-dominant carrier in the local exchange, interstate, and interexchange services markets.

### **V. Designated Contacts**

Correspondence concerning this Application should be directed to:

Michael C. Sloan  
Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP  
1919 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20006  
(202) 973-4227  
[michaelsloan@dwt.com](mailto:michaelsloan@dwt.com)

7

WHEREFORE, Comcast Phone of Maryland, LLC respectfully requests that the Commission authorize it to discontinue Comcast Digital Phone service in the state of Maryland on or after January 15, 2008, or 31 days after the Commission releases public notice of this filing, whichever date is earlier.

Respectfully submitted:

By:



Michael C. Sloan  
Brian J. Hurh  
Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP  
1919 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Suite 200  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
Telephone: (202) 973-4227  
Facsimile: (202) 973-4499

Counsel for Comcast Phone of Maryland, LLC

Dated: November 19, 2007

**Attachment 1**  
**Sample Customer Notification Letter**



## IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

November 16, 2007

Dear Valued Customer:

We will be **discontinuing** the provision of Comcast Digital Phone service at your complex **January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008**, subject to governmental approval.

**YOUR ACTION IS REQUIRED!** Please note that you must subscribe to another telephone service prior to 1/15/08, or you will not have access to local, toll or long distance telephone services currently available with **Comcast Digital Phone**.

In most areas, Comcast also provides an alternative service called *Comcast Digital Voice*, which includes unlimited local and domestic long distance along with 12 popular calling features. If you prefer to use another provider, Comcast will cooperate with you through the date of discontinuance to transition your local telephone service to the carrier of your choice and will assist you in transitioning your existing local telephone number(s) where permitted. To learn more about Comcast Digital Voice, please call our Customer Care Department at 1-888-837-3058. Otherwise, please consult your local telephone directory or contact Verizon for a list of other possible providers.

The FCC will normally authorize the proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the §63.71 Application of Comcast Phone of Maryland, Inc. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

Sincerely,

Comcast Digital Phone